

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1059
By Crutchfield

A RESOLUTION to congratulate and honor Nicholas R. Elledge
upon winning the 2006 National Oratorical
Contest.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should specially recognize those talented young people whose special gifts find outlet and expression through public speaking and whose accomplishments bring honor to the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, one such highly talented Tennessean is Nicholas R. Elledge, who was recently recognized as the winner of the 2006 National Oratorical Contest in Indianapolis, Indiana, becoming the first Tennessean to claim the title in fifty years; and

WHEREAS, for taking the top prize with his speech, "Constitutional Democracy is not a Spectator Sport," Nicholas won an \$18,000 scholarship and an invitation to attend the 2006 National Convention of The American Legion in Salt Lake City, Utah, later this year. He was also a Second District Winner and won first place at the State Finals Oratorical Contest, receiving a \$4,000 scholarship; and

WHEREAS, a junior at Berean Christian High School in Knoxville, Nicholas is the son of proud parents, Brad and Eileen Elledge, and the brother of Alyssa, Olivia, and Thomas Elledge. He plans to attend Harvard University to study political science and law; and

WHEREAS, the contest, sponsored by The American Legion, seeks to develop a deeper knowledge and appreciation of the Constitution of the United States on the part of high school students. The contestants are required to give an eight-ten-minute prepared oration on some phase of the U.S. Constitution, which will give emphasis to the attendant duties and obligations of a citizen to our government. In addition, an assigned topic from the Articles or Amendments

of the Constitution is drawn, and the contestant has to speak three to five minutes on that subject; and

WHEREAS, with his remarkable knowledge of the very foundation of our democracy, Nicolas Elledge should be properly recognized and commended for his efforts and rightfully acknowledged as one of the best and brightest young people of this state; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Nicholas Elledge for his dedication to excellence in public speaking; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby congratulate Nicholas R. Elledge upon winning the 2006 National Oratorical Contest, commend him for his meritorious service to the State of Tennessee, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.